

Center for Slavic and East European Studies

Newsletter

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AN INTERVIEW WITH TENGHIS ABULADZE

By Conor Daly, Graduate Student
Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures

Conor Daly served as translator for Mr. Abuladze during his recent visit. In this interview excerpt, Mr. Abuladze talks about his plans for future films and his sense of ongoing change in the Soviet Union.

C.D.: You said that your next project will be Hadji Murat--why him?

T.A.: I've always wanted to make a film about Hadji Murat. So have a lot of people. But it's only now that Goskino has given the idea the green light. Until now the Tadzhik rebel theme was perceived as anti-Russian. Also I'm a great admirer of Tolstoy--not just the big novels, but the later publicistic works as well. His fable The Kingdom of God is Within You, for example, has become a central part of my artistic credo. Tolstoy's values transcend the ritual trappings of individual traditions. When the wise old woman at the end of "Repentance" says that no road is worthwhile that doesn't lead to a shrine, she's not talking about any specific church, temple or whatever, but rather about a universally holy place, a shrine, a sanctuary.

C.D.: You said that tyranny is the central theme of "Repentance"; will you continue making films on that theme?

T.A.: No, I think I'll leave that to other people. Tyranny was the theme of my whole trilogy, though I must say that when I shot "Prayer" I didn't know I would have a trilogy on my hands. Or maybe I knew unconsciously. No, I've said my piece on that score, and I'm delighted at the way my country received it, especially the young people. That's what gives me hope. Perestrojka is our rapprochement with common sense: it's the last chance we have, and we're not going to pass it up. Mind you, there is opposition. Even Elem Klimov, a truly remarkable and courageous man, has been getting cold feet occasionally. There have been huge changes in the film industry, especially the move to self-financing, and that spells danger for the hacks in the business. If the public chooses not to go and see their creations, their budgets will be cut next time around. Of course the new system profits people like me. Take "Repentance." It's been sold to a U.S. distributor for \$10 million, and some of that even winds up in our studio coffers. I'm going to make sure that money gets spent on high-quality cameras and other Western film hardware. Our equipment in Tbilisi is sadly out of date.

But whatever the problems now, the times have certainly changed. The stagnation of the Brezhnev period is behind us. The Soviet Union then and the Soviet Union now are two completely different places. The very fact that such a film as "Repentance" has appeared is proof of that. And the change goes far beyond the cinema.

(Continued on page 3)

CENTER TO SPONSOR CHINESE RESEARCH SCHOLAR

A scholar from the People's Republic of China will visit the University as Research Associate of the Slavic Center from October 1987 through January 1988.

Ms. Jinhai Song was educated at the Beijing Institute of Foreign Languages and Irkutsk State University (USSR). She is currently Lecturer in Soviet foreign relations at the Institute of Soviet and East European Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences; for the twelve years prior to her appointment at the Academy, she served as Soviet and East European specialist at the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Ms. Song will devote her time here to the study of Soviet Middle Eastern policy and the impact of domestic reforms on Soviet foreign policy.

CHORUS TO TRAVEL TO USSR:

TV Documentary Planned

An independent production team headquartered in Palo Alto is producing a television documentary on a major choral work, "The Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom," by Sergei Rachmaninoff. "A Masterpiece Rediscovered: Rachmaninoff Returns to Russia" is the story of this seldom-performed work and how it has led a volunteer California chorus on a journey to the Soviet Union. A television crew will travel with the chorus, documenting experiences of the chorus members as they encounter the Soviet Union and its people for the first time.

The documentary will also focus on the chorus's Soviet hosts as they receive and get to know this large group of Americans who have worked for two and one-half years to revive and bring Rachmaninoff's masterpiece back to the country of its origin. Because of the establishment of a sister city relationship between Santa Cruz, California, and Alushta, in the Ukraine, the group will be an official delegation from the United States. If you would like more information regarding this documentary, please call (415) 493-0584.

PUBLICATIONS

New from the University of California Press are four titles in the fields of Russian and East European studies. In A Coat of Many Colors, Osip Mandelstam and His Mythologies of Self-Presentation, Gregory Freidin (Associate Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Stanford University) examines the legacy of the successful twentieth-century Russian poet in terms of his effect on his fellow poets and his culture.

Lenin's New Economic Policy (NEP) of 1921 called for the legalization of private trade and manufacture. In Russia's Last Capitalists, The Nepmen, 1921-1929, author Alan M. Ball (Assistant Professor of History, Marquette University) discusses the importance and influence of the private entrepreneurs, dubbed "Nepmen," who flourished during this brief era.

Five authors have contributed essays to The Urban Society of Eastern Europe in Premodern Times. Edited by Barisa Krekic (Professor of History, UCLA) the essays furnish insights into late medieval and early modern East European urban societies.

Autocracy, Capitalism, and Revolution in Russia, by Tim McDaniel (Associate Professor of Sociology, UC San Diego) emphasizes the central role of social movements in generating revolutionary crises.

NEWS OF THE BERKELEY-STANFORD PROGRAM ON SOVIET INTERNATIONAL BEHAVIOR

Copies of the newly revised and updated Student Handbook of the Berkeley-Stanford Program on Soviet International Behavior are now available for review at the Berkeley Slavic Center and the Stanford Center for Russian and East European Studies. Students enrolled in graduate programs at UC-Berkeley or Stanford who wish to find out more about the Berkeley Stanford Program are encouraged to look through the Handbook. This year's Handbook includes information on course requirements, summer language study, internships, core and related courses offered at UC Berkeley and Stanford, and biographies of associated faculty, staff and students.

The Berkeley-Stanford Program will be sponsoring the visit of Professor Sheila Fitzpatrick of the University of Texas on October 14th. (See below).

Richard Remnek, Executive Director

SHEILA FITZPATRICK TO SPEAK ON CAMPUS

We are happy to announce that Sheila Fitzpatrick, Oliver H. Radkey Regents' Professor of History at the University of Texas, Austin, will visit the UC Berkeley campus on October 14.

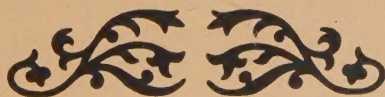
She will give a Bag Lunch talk at noon, meet with graduate students at the Center from 2:00-3:30, and then deliver a formal address at a colloquium sponsored by the Department of History at 4:00 in the Sather Room, 3205 Dwinelle.

Professor Fitzpatrick is one of the West's leading authorities on the social and cultural history of the Soviet Union before World War II. She is the author of The Commissariat of Enlightenment: Soviet Organization of Education and the Arts Under Lunacharsky, 1917-1921 (1970); Education and Social Mobility in the Soviet Union, 1921-1932 (1979); Cultural Revolution in Russia, 1928-1931 (1978); and The Russian Revolution (1982). Her numerous articles include "New Perspectives On Stalinism," Russian Review No. 4 (1986); "The Russian Revolution and Social Mobility: A Regime In the 1920s and 1930s," Politics and Society (1986); and "Stalin and the Making Of a New Elite, 1928-1939," Slavic Review (September, 1979). She is currently writing a book on a social history of Stalin's Russia, and co-editing another on politics and culture in Soviet Russia during the first two decades.

Join us for what promises to be a lively and controversial Bag Lunch discussion and a fascinating colloquium.

Abuladze Interview, cont.

Take Anna Akhmatova's poem "Requiem"--I bought a Western edition of "Requiem" when I was here nine years ago, and it had a great influence on me. You may even detect references to it in my film. But now "Requiem" has been officially published in the Soviet Union, in the March, 1987, issue of the journal "Oktyabr'." As I like to say: Repentance is a guarantee of moral rebirth.



AN INTRODUCTION TO SLAVIC HOUSE

Just up the street from Memorial Stadium is a large old house, exhibiting the simple design and extensive use of interior wood associated with the Bay Region tradition. Built as a private residence in 1908 by architect Charles Kaiser, it opened in 1982 as one of several "theme houses" operated by the UC Housing Office.

Nineteen undergraduate and graduate students live at Slavic House. All of them have had at least one year of a Slavic language, and many of them are fluent in Russian. Resident assistant Pauline Jones is usually on hand between classes to see that everything is running smoothly. A Political Science and History major with a concentration in East European Studies, she began studying Russian as a Freshman. "It has become almost an obsession--to learn the language well enough to speak it and to understand the Russian culture." It helps, she says, that Slavic House residents speak Russian every evening during dinner. "We're working toward using Russian as our primary language at home."

The Fall semester promises to be a good one for residents. "Right now," says Pauline, "we're recruiting people to go to the Moscow Ballet performance in October at a discount rate; being part of a group with similar interests has many advantages!" On alternate Wednesdays at 8:00 pm, Slavic House plans to show films and to host a series of teas, to which faculty members will be invited. In addition, residents are organizing an information night on the Education Abroad Program (EAP), as well as a lecture program on campus. Look for specific dates, times, and locations in future calendar listings.

Slavic House is sponsored by the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures; Olga Astromoff, Lecturer in Russian, acts as faculty advisor.

JONATHAN HASLAM FIRST BAG LUNCH SPEAKER

On September 9, Jonathan Haslam, Visiting Associate Professor of Political Science at UC Berkeley, spoke on "An Historical Approach to the Study of Soviet Foreign Policy" at the first Bag Lunch of the semester.

Professor Haslam drew from his current research on the history of post-war Soviet policy toward Japan to explain the importance of history to the longstanding freeze in Soviet-Japanese relations. He referred to the cultural and psychological backgrounds of Soviet policy makers, and particularly to the bitter historical legacy from the Russo-Japanese War, as factors which have had an intangible impact on Moscow's Japan policy.

Dr. Haslam discussed at length Russia's territorial dispute with Japan over the four islands north of Hokkaido, noting Khrushchev's unsuccessful bid in 1956 to resolve the problem. The Japanese assert that Moscow's intransigence over the territorial dispute stands in the way of any improvement in relations. He offered as an example of Soviet insensitivity toward Japanese interests the fact that the Soviets do not permit Japanese citizens to visit the graves of their relatives on the islands.

Asserting the need to analyze current Soviet foreign policy within an historical context, Dr. Haslam argued that although access to Soviet archives for research on even pre-Soviet diplomatic history remains extremely limited, the available sources are sufficient for an in-depth study of Soviet diplomatic history.

YOUNGER SCHOLARS PROGRAM

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) is accepting young scholar fellowship applications for research and writing projects in the summer of 1988. Awards are \$2,200 for college students. Advisors receive \$400 per stipend. Applicants must be below the senior level and must be U.S. citizens or foreign nationals who have lived in the United States for at least three consecutive years. NEH wishes to fund research and writing in history, philosophy, languages, literature, arts, religion and other areas. The Sponsored Projects Office has requested announcements. Deadline: NOVEMBER 2 1987

SPO has the new guidelines for NEH Division of Education Programs. The packet offers information on all funding opportunities at the Division of Education, the application and review processes, and staff contacts. Call 642-8122.

MELLON POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP AT STANFORD

The Center for Russian and East European Studies at Stanford University is offering a post-doctoral research and training fellowship for the academic year 1988-89, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Fellows will be expected to be in residence for most of the academic year and to participate in the life of the Center. In addition, they should be willing to teach at least one quarter-long course in their specialty and to present a public lecture on their research work. Address inquiries to: Post-doctoral Fellowship Committee, Center for Russian and East European Studies, History Building 200, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305-2024. Application deadline: JANUARY 15 1988

SPEAKERS BUREAU AND TRAVEL GRANTS

Through the Speakers Bureau the Slavic Center continues to promote communication and cooperation with Bay Area schools and organizations. The service coordinates requests for speakers and offers honoraria to faculty and graduate students for speaking engagements. To find out more about the program, contact Dr. Elizabeth Shepard at the Center, 642-5245, mornings.

Slavic and East European Area program faculty and graduate students take note: the Center awards a limited number of travel grants supporting the presentation of papers at meetings of recognized scholarly associations or institutions. The grants, not to exceed \$350, are for domestic travel only. Contact Dr. Shepard at the Center for more information.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUPPORT: Current listings of support opportunities for scholars may be found at the Center office. Drop by to look them over.

SOVIET NOVEL AVAILABLE

The Center has made several copies of Anatoly Rybakov's novel, Children of the Arbat (Deti Arbata), which appeared serially in the journal Druzhba narodov this spring. Written in the 1960s, the novel has attracted wide attention for its frank treatment of Stalinism. Students and faculty members who wish to borrow copies for short-term use should contact the Center, 642-3230.

LIBRARY NEWS
By Allan Urbanic

The Library has recently received as a gift the complete run of the newspaper Novaya zarya (New Dawn) from Mrs. Matrona A. Soohoff, wife of the late publisher Mr. Grigorii T. Soohoff. The newspaper was written and printed in San Francisco from 1928 until Mr. Soohoff's retirement in 1973. It served the Russian speaking community, not only of the Bay Area, but of the whole United States, reaching a circulation of 10,000 copies. Because of the fragile condition of many of the issues, the Library is undertaking the microfilming of the newspaper's entire run for inclusion in its Russian Emigre Literature Collection. We of the Berkeley community are extremely grateful to Mrs. Soohoff for her generous gift to the Library.

Annmarie Mitchell, Librarian for Polish Collections, reports a recent purchase of 475 volumes on Polish Church History and Church-State relations from a private collection. Among the volumes acquired are many rare pamphlets not held by libraries in the United States, as well as important monographs and serials not previously available in the Bay Area. Funding for the acquisition was provided by the Reese Endowment.

New in the Reference Collection

Lazic, Branko M., Biographical Dictionary of the Comintern. New, revised and expanded ed. Stanford, CA: Hoover Institution, 1986.
[HX23.L351 1986 REF/BIBL shelved in the Biographies Section]

Russia in the Twentieth Century: The Catalog of the Bakhmeteff Archive of Russian and East European History and Culture. The Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University. Boston: G.K. Hall, 1987. [DK3.C75 1987 REF/BIBL]

The Catalog comprises listings from the Archive's four primary focal areas:

1. Prominent literary figures of the Russian emigration
2. Archives of institutions or organizations
3. Memoirs and other materials concerned with major historical events from the last phase of Imperial Russia through World War II
4. Materials pertaining to Eastern Europe

Research material from the Archive is available to graduate students and scholars; it is recommended that all researchers write in advance stating their needs and qualifications.

The Slavic Center also has a copy of the Catalog available for borrowing.

JOB OPENING

Library Assistant I, temporary part-time, three months, ten hours a week, \$7.75 per hour. Knowledge of Russian essential; typing and familiarity with computers preferred. To work in Doe Library, Acquisitions Department, processing incoming materials for Slavic and East European collections. Interested students should obtain a job referral slip for this position from the Student Placement Office, 111 Wheeler Hall, and bring it to Mrs. Palomino at the Slavic Center, 361 Stephens Hall. This temporary position is funded by the Center's Title VI federal grant.

Center For Slavic and East European Studies

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thurs Oct 1
TBA
4:00 pm

LECTURE: Peter Steiner, Associate Professor of Comparative Literature at the University of Pennsylvania, will speak on "The Concept of the Symbol in Post-Symbolist Russian Letters." Sponsored by the Slavic Department.

30 Sept - 4 Oct
Russian Cinema
6312 Geary Blvd., SF
Wed - Fri 2:00 pm
Sat - Sun 2, 6 pm

FILM: THE MAN WITH THE ACCORDION (Chelovek s akkordeonom) (1985), in Russian with English titles. From a story by A. Makarov, with V. Zolotukhin and I. Alferova.

Wed Oct 7
442 Stephens
NOON

BAG LUNCH: Recent UCB participants in IREX will discuss their experiences and answer your questions. Always an informative and entertaining occasion, the IREX Bag Lunch provides an opportunity for scholars interested in Slavic and East European area studies to learn more about the program.

Thurs Oct 8
607 Cabrillo Ave.
Stanford, CA
4-6 pm

RECEPTION: The Fall reception for the Center For Russian and East European Studies at Stanford.

Fri Oct 9
PFA
7:30, 9:30 pm

FILM: Two showings of MY FRIEND IVAN LAPSHIN (Moi drug Ivan Lapshin, 1982/1986). Set in the winter of 1935, Alexei Gherman's film reconstructs the calm of an era just prior to the Stalinist storm. Based on a novel by Yuri Gherman; in Russian with English titles.

Sat Oct 10
Santa Cruz Brewery
Santa Cruz
6:00 pm

CONCERT: Slavyanka, the San Francisco-based men's Slavic chorus will perform music of Russia and Eastern Europe at a benefit concert and party for the Cabrillo Slavonic Chorus. Admission: \$9.75 general, \$6.75 seniors and students. Tickets at the door or call: (415) 826-0838. door or call: (415) 826-0838.

Sun Oct 11
SF Jewish Comm. Center
3200 California St. SF
5:15 pm

LECTURE: Noted émigré philosopher and writer Alexander Zinoviev will speak in Russian on "Gorbachevism." One of the leading Russian intellectuals in exile, Professor Zinoviev lives and teaches in West Germany. He is perhaps best known for his book The Yawning Heights (Ziiaiuschie vysoty). Tickets at the door: \$7 general, \$5 students, or call: 346-6040 x236 or 238.

Wed Oct 14
442 Stephens
NOON

BAG LUNCH: Sheila Fitzpatrick, Oliver H. Radkey Regents' Professor of History at the University of Texas, Austin, will discuss "Historiography On the USSR: Recent Western and Soviet Approaches." Following the Bag Lunch talk Professor Fitzpatrick will meet with graduate students from 2:00-3:30 pm at the Center.

Wed Oct 14
The Sather Room
3205 Dwinelle
4:00 pm

COLLOQUIUM: Professor Sheila Fitzpatrick will deliver a formal talk, sponsored by the Department of History, on "The Problem of Social Identity in the USSR in the 1930s." (See this issue for a profile of Professor Fitzpatrick.)

Thurs Oct 15
442 Stephens
4:00 pm

LECTURE: Loren Graham, Professor of Science, Technology and Society at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will speak on "How Gorbachev's Reforms have Affected Soviet Science and Technology." Professor Graham is the author of the seminal work The Soviet Academy of Sciences and the Communist Party, 1927-1932 (Princeton University Press, 1967), and the recently published Science, Philosophy and Human Behavior in the Soviet Union (Columbia University Press, 1987).

Thurs Oct 15
PFA
4:00 pm
FREE EVENT

FILM: PETER THE FIRST, PART I (1937). 1987 marks the 50th anniversary of the release of the Soviet classic film, based on Alexei Tolstoy's historical novel. Directed by V. Petrov, in Russian with English titles. A Russian videocassette of PETER THE FIRST, PARTS I and II may be checked out at the Center.

Fri Oct 16
York Theater
2789 24th St. SF
7:00, 9:30 pm

FILM: BRIEF ENCOUNTERS (Korotkie vstrechi) (1967/1987, 95 mins.), in Russian with English titles. LONG FAREWELLS (Dolgie provody) (1971/1987, 97 mins.), in Russian with English titles. A tribute to the Soviet filmmaker Kira Muratova, presented by PFA in cooperation with California Women in Film and the S.F. Film Festival. Ms. Muratova will be in attendance and will speak during the intermission. Admission is \$6 for one film, \$8 for both.

Mon Oct 19
442 Stephens
2:00 pm

LECTURE: Michael Swafford, Associate Professor of Sociology, Vanderbilt University, will speak on "Perceptions of Distributive Justice in the Soviet Union." Professor Swafford has developed ingenious survey methods for interviewing Soviet émigrés and has produced some intriguing analyses of the data from the Soviet Émigré Interview Project.

Tues Oct 20
PFA
3:45 pm
FREE EVENT

FILM: POTEMKIN (1925), silent with Russian intertitles. Eisenstein's classic film will be shown in conjunction with courses. Students have admission preference; it is anticipated that extra seating will be available. The film is also available on videocassette at the Center.

Wed Oct 21
442 Stephens
NOON

BAG LUNCH: Allen Kuharski, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Dramatic Art at Berkeley, will report on his recent trips to Poland to attend the 26th Festival of Contemporary Polish Plays in Wroclaw and an international theater symposium in Lublin devoted to "The Nature of the Word in Theatre Cultures." He will speak on "Presences and Absences: Impressions of the Polish Theatre today."

19-20-21 Oct
Flint Center
Cupertino, CA
8:00 pm

BALLET: "The Moscow Ballet"--a touring group of dancers from Soviet companies including the Kirov and the Bol'shoi. Programs will consist of highlights from the classical repertory.

Sat Oct 24
Showcase Theater
Marin Center
San Rafael
8:00 pm

CONCERT: Slavyanka will perform Russian and East European music. Admission: \$9.75 general, \$6.75 seniors and students.

Wed Oct 28
442 Stephens
NOON

BAG LUNCH: Stephen Kotkin, a graduate student in the Department of History, will discuss "Glasnost, Real and Imagined: Six Weeks Behind the Urals." Mr. Kotkin is currently writing his dissertation on "Urbanization in the the USSR, 1926-39." He recently returned from a ten-month research visit to the USSR, where he spent six weeks in the working-class town of Magnitogorsk in the Ural Mountain region--probably the first American to visit Magnitogorsk in nearly half a century.

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